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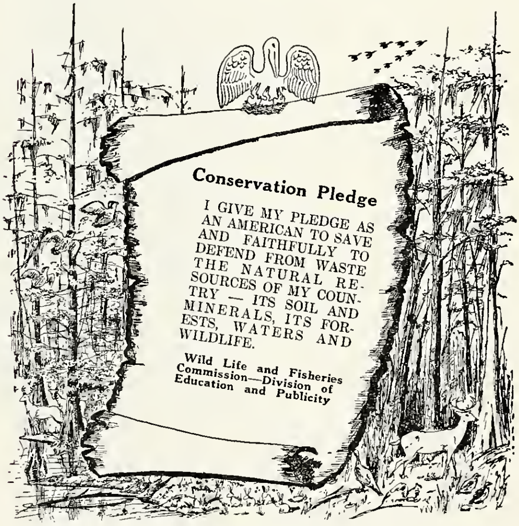

Conservation Pledge
I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY TO DEFEND FROM WASTE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY — ITS SOIL AND MINERALS, ITS FORESTS, WATERS AND WILDLIFE.
Wild Life and Fisheries Commission—Division of Education and Publicity

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Vol. 10, No. 9

EDITORIAL

By F. LAMAR CLEMENT, *Director*

Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission

IT IS HUMANITARIAN to give and American to pledge, and a pledge for the conservation of our state's wildlife resources is an assurance for the future. In a nationwide contest the following pledge was adjudged the best by Outdoor Life magazine, which sponsored the contest:

"We give our pledge, as Americans, to save and faithfully to defend from waste, the natural resources of our country, its soils and minerals, its forests, waters and wildlife."

F. LAMAR CLEMENT

We, in Louisiana, pledge and give our time, our efforts and our earthly goods to worthy causes to make life more pleasant for our fellow man, and to make this world a better place in which to live.

As Americans we control our own destinies. We can be born in an humble cabin and eventually live in the White House. Our pathway through life can be of our own choosing, no matter who we are, or where we were born. We may work, worship and play anywhere, anytime and in any way we desire. In this land of freedom our opportunities are unlimited, our traditions great, and our liberties guaranteed.

We have faithfully defended and preserved our way of life for almost two centuries, yet through peace and war we have remained true to the ideals upon which this country was founded. We always have, and always will dedicate ourselves to saving and defending for our children, our unlimited opportunities in a greater America.

Waste and Americanism, however, too often have gone together. Because we have had so much, we often disregard things which are considered priceless by others. Even our scraps have provided the means with which to wage war against us. Now, with the welfare of this world on our shoulders, everything American counts. Today, conservation of our natural resources will determine our future greatness. We MUST use them wisely and protect them from waste.

Most of us were born with a gold spoon in our mouth as far as an abundant supply of fish and game in our woods and streams is concerned. Through our lack of foresight we have failed our children in that we have done so little to assure that they, too, would have an outlet for their field and stream desires. Unlike ourselves at their age our youths' interest in conservation is well founded, and the training they get now, in the necessity for protection of our wildlife resources, will stand them in good stead in their maturity. That is the paramount reason why our conservation programs must progress.

What could we have, or what could we be without the natural resources of our state and country? By the grace of God, we are blessed with an abundance of natural resources, and we have developed these into the highest standard of living in the world. They say America has everything . . . it has . . . who would deny it? Life comes from our soil. The food we eat, the clothes we wear, the fuel we burn all come from our rich earth. Skyscrapers and sewing needles, radio sets and writing pens, atom bombs and axes, all come from the "dirt beneath our feet." Our greatness lies in the land we live on.

Every stand of forest, every drop of clear, clean water and all our wildlife carries a message for Americans. "Use us wisely" they say, "or we will vanish entirely." How well we preserve and profit from God's great outdoors . . . forests, waters and wildlife . . . will determine our future welfare. Shall we despoil and become beggars along the pathways of our plundered plant, or shall we conserve and set an example for all humanity?

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COVER

Mrs. Richard of Lake Charles, 90 years old and still winning fishing rodeo prizes.

Soil Bank Payments For Farm Game And Fish Crops

The Soil Bank Act is designed to help farmers make a direct attack on overproduction and to retire and build up land not presently needed for crops.

Through cost-sharing and annual payments, it will assist farmers in establishing wildlife habitat improvements.

"WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO ME?"

If you are a landowner, the Soil Bank program of the Agricultural Act of 1956 means that the U. S. Department of Agriculture will share with you the cost of taking croplands out of production and applying conservation practices to that land.

If you are a taxpayer, it means that part of the tax that you now pay to support prices on agricultural products being produced in surplus quantities will be spent instead on paying farmers to produce less and to improve the nation's soil, water, forests, and wildlife by conservation practices on those lands taken out of production.

As a sportsman, it means that landowners will produce more farm game through wildlife food and cover plantings, more furbearers and more havens for waterfowl through marsh development and more fish from farm ponds. These conservation practices will replace the practices of overproduction of farm crops in direct proportion to the participation in the Soil Bank program by landowners.

"WHAT LAND IS ELIGIBLE FOR SOIL BANK?"

Land eligible to be designated as Conservation Reserve is limited to: (1) cropland, (2) land devoted to tame hay. No cost-sharing will be allowed for land clearing. Plantings must be protected from fire and grazing, but no Federal cost-sharing will be allowed for the construction of fences.

Croplands to be withdrawn from cultivation include land used for the production of crops of which a surplus exists. Corn, cotton, tobacco, peanuts and soybeans are examples of crops to be withdrawn; land devoted to gardens for home consumption, orchards, and crops grown for cover only are not eligible.

Minimum acreages for participation vary with the conservation practice. The minimum size of an area to be placed in wildlife food plants such as shrub lespedeza should be one-half acre. From the biological point of view the smallest marsh area to be developed should be at least one acre. The minimum size of a farm pond under this program should be one-fourth acre. These figures are for individual units based on the minimum practical size.

"HOW DO I APPLY FOR SOIL BANK?"

Your local Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) Committee representative can provide information on the Soil Bank program and the contract terms that apply locally.

Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission biologists and Soil Conservation Service technicians will be available for necessary assistance in planning conservation programs, and will aid ASC committees in checking completed work on wildlife food and cover plantings and marsh and pond development. Soil Conservation Service technicians will prepare and approve plans for farm ponds based on their studies. They will provide detailed soil studies, plans, calculations, and information on the proposed dam, spillways, and reservoir. Any they will handle applications for the fish.

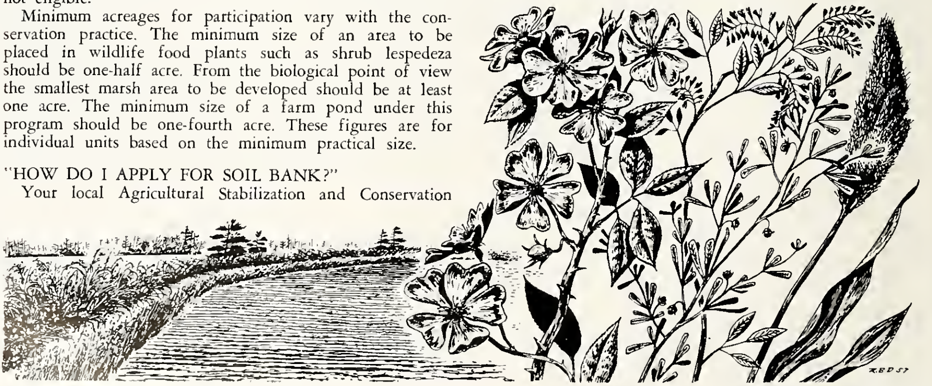
In order to qualify for Federal cost-sharing, the landowner is asked to agree to certain conditions. These conditions can be modified should it become necessary to return the land to cultivation, but in the meantime the land will be devoted to conservation.

Three opportunities are available to farmers for fish and wildlife developments, depending upon his interests and the soil types on his farm. They are the following:

- *Wildlife Food and Cover Plantings*
- *Marsh Development for Fur and Waterfowl*
- *Dams and Ponds for Fish and Erosion Control*

WILDLIFE FOOD AND COVER PLANTINGS

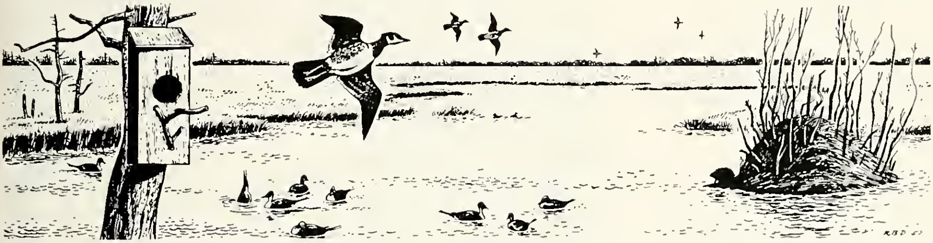
Two types of plants will be recognized in the Soil Bank program, seedling and seed plantings. Cost-sharing will be provided for the establishment of the plantings. The landowner will receive an annual rental payment for maintaining these plantings (keeping the land out of production)



during the contract period of from five to 15 years. The average annual rental payment, on a statewide basis is $14 per acre.

To qualify for cost-sharing the participant is required to carry out all cultural and planting operations necessary for a successful stand. Specifications for food and cover plantings will be available at the Parish ASC office.

Federal cost-sharing is available for plantings of various seeds alone or with shrub lespedezas. Annual legumes or grasses or annual seed mixtures may also be planted. All seeding must be in accordance with good farming practices, including a well-prepared seedbed, a full seeding of adapted seed, the application of lime, phosphate and potash where necessary to assure a good stand and good growth, and recommended seeding rates and planting dates should be followed. Volunteer stands will not qualify. No harvesting or grazing of plantings by livestock will be allowed under the terms of the contract.



MARSH DEVELOPMENT FOR FUR AND WATERFOWL

Eligible land may be taken out of production under the Soil Bank program for the development of shallow water areas to improve habitat for waterfowl, fur animals and other wildlife as well as the restoration of former marshlands that have been drained. This is to be accomplished by installing earth plugs or water control structures in drainage ditches. The same eligibility requirements apply as in other conservation reserve practices.

Development shall consist of the creation of shallow water or marsh areas through the construction of adequate dikes, dams, or levees, provision for sources of water including canals or reservoirs, and control structures which will permit drainage and filling of the marsh. The restoration of drained marshes can usually be accomplished through the same methods to be used in establishing new areas. Two general practices may be followed after filling has been made possible. An annual draw-down permits fertilization and seeding. When the seed crop has matured, flooding for the winter months follows. Where annual draw-downs are not feasible, an original planting of aquatic plants can be made to permanently establish a food supply in the marsh.

Where annual draw-downs are anticipated, a water level of from six to twelve inches should be planned. Light disking and proper water level control will allow natural plants such as the smartweeds and wild millet to become established. Where seeding is necessary, a properly prepared seedbed may be planted in millets and other waterfowl foods.

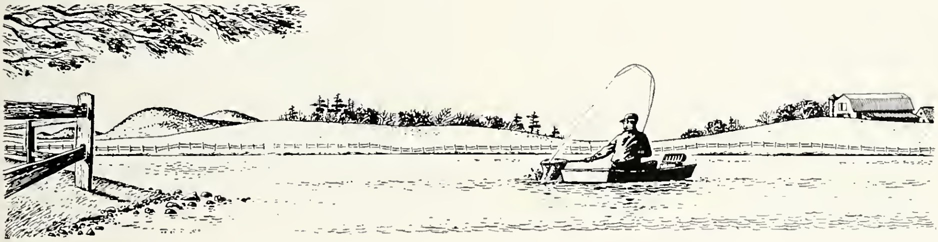
In permanent or semipermanent waters, depths may range up to five feet, with fluctuations during the year being desirable if low levels can be maintained during the growing season. Widgeon grass and the smartweeds are among the recommended plants.

DAMS AND PONDS FOR FISH AND EROSION CONTROL

This part of the Soil Bank program permits the landowner to take eligible land from production and with Soil Bank cost-sharing build farm ponds for the primary purpose of fish production. In addition to assistance in building the pond, he will receive the Conservation Reserve annual payment.

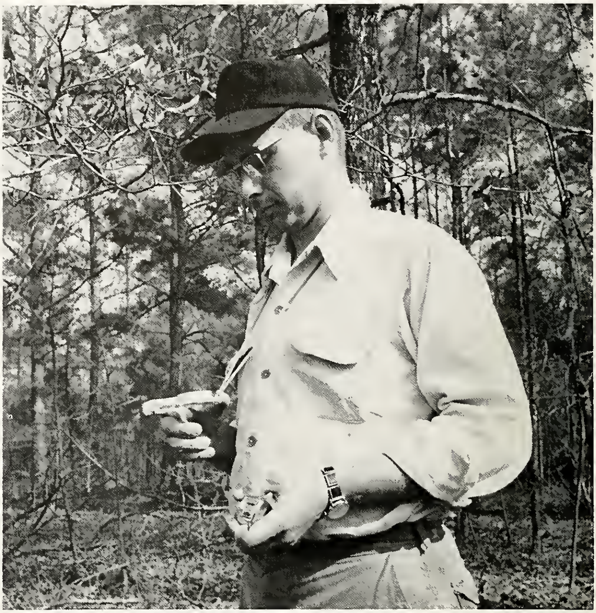
The Soil Conservation Service technician is responsible for determining if the pond is needed and is practical on the farm, selecting the site, lay-out of the pond, supervision of construction, and certification to the County ASC Committee.

Sites will not be approved if erosion of the watershed produces serious discoloration of the water and tends to materially reduce the storage capacity of the reservoir. The reservoir will have to store sufficient water at all times to meet the needs of the fish. Cattle may not use the pond, nor may water from the pond be diverted for irrigation under the terms of the Soil Bank contract, except when used on Conservation Reserve acreage.



Game and Timber Go Together!

By Dr. Bryant A. Bateman
Professor of Forestry
Louisiana State University



Compass lines were run to insure an even and complete coverage of the area.

Editor's Note—This will suggest to the interested landowner some rather simple methods of maintaining or increasing game species on his forest lands. The landowner is free to choose the degree of game management that he wishes to practice based on his interest in, and the facilities available for maintaining a satisfactory game habitat.

GAME SPECIES are shy and secretive to such an extent that population changes cannot be accurately determined. Because of this and the many inter-relations between the different game species and between the game species and a disturbed habitat, the exact response to the practices outlined cannot be predicted. However, the landowner can rest assured that the practices outlined here will be beneficial.

Forest game species of Louisiana include fox and gray squirrels, deer, swamp rabbit, and turkey. Raccoon, opossum, and fox are found throughout most of the forested areas of the state. The bobwhite quail and the cottontail rabbit, normally classed as farm game, reach their highest populations where trees and shrubs make up a part of the habitat.

Squirrel, deer, and turkey constitute a very limited number of game species dependent on the forest. This is an advantage, as the requirements of one species never exactly fit those of another species. This small number of species also presents problems. Their best development, and in the case of the squirrel, its existence depends on the presence of hardwoods in the forest stand. Louisiana has no game species that prefers a pure coniferous habitat. In fact, it is doubtful that any of our species could exist in a forest devoid of broadleaf trees and shrubs.

The game habitat must supply food, shelter from climatic forces, a haven of escape from predators and hunters, nesting, resting, and playing sites, and a certain degree of isolation from man and his domestic animals. The extent to which each of these habitat requirements is supplied determines the carrying capacity of a given area. All species do not require each of the habitat factors to an equal degree; turkey demand far greater isolation than do bobwhite quail, to cite one example.

The unbroken forest of old growth, with a preponderance of mast-bearing hardwood trees, provides a near optimum habitat for squirrel. A similar area, having numerous openings and scattered thickets, meets the requirements of turkey. Deer and swamp rabbit need a forest composed of trees of all ages plus well interspersed openings. The total area required by the different game species to maintain a stable population varies greatly. The farm woodland may support squirrel or swamp rabbit, while turkey require an area of 10,000 acres or more.

The game manager must bear in mind that no one species or a group of closely related species of trees make a complete game habitat. There must be suitable cover and adequate food for each and every day of the year.

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES IN PINE OR PINE-HARDWOOD FORESTS

1. Leave all bottoms, from those only a few feet wide to major stream valleys, in their natural state except for normal harvest operations.
   (a) Leave mast-producing trees in harvest operations whenever it would be an acceptable forestry practice.
   (b) Grow mast-producing trees to large sizes where feasible.
   (c) Fire should be kept out of hardwood bottoms at all times.
2. In upland stands of mixed pine and hardwoods, leave groups of five or more merchantable mast-producing hardwoods on areas of about one acre but not larger than two acres.
   (a) Leave a den tree in each group if possible.
   (b) Leave groups of the better quality mast-bearing trees

in the 4-6-8 inch diameter classes for future food supply.

(c) Thin goups of smaller mast-bearing trees so that each crown will have near full sunlight.

(d) Maintain this hardwood constituent permanently.

The landowner must decide on the number of groups that are to be left, recognizing the fact that game production will increase as the number of groups increase.

3. Leave small seed-bearing shrubs, trees, and vines, such as huckleberries, dogwood, persimmon, mulberries, haws, muscadine, and grapes.
   (a) In clusters such a dogwood, only the best stem should be left.
4. Harvest pine in small groups where practical.

The retaining of all hardwoods with a minimum of a commercial volume during a timber stand improvement operation today, and then tomorrow or next year removing all merchantable volume in a crosstie or other cut has no value from a game management standpoint.

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR BOBWHITE QUAIL IN PINE AND PINE-HARDWOOD FORESTS

1. The management of bobwhite quail is practical if forest practices include the use of controlled fire.
   (a) Fire used to control hardood brush, prevent destructive wildfires, or control brownspot will improve the quail habitat.
   (b) Burn at end of winter just before annual plants start growth.
   (c) Burn on a two- to five-year schedule based on formation of rough.
   (d) On each 40-acre block, protect one or more one-acre plots where there are briers, dense thickets, or grape vines.
2. Landowners with a special interest in quail may wish to plant food plots or strips.

Fire is a useful tool under certain specific conditions if managed correctly. It is also extremely destructive when used at the wrong time or in the wrong place. Landowners who are planning to use fire should consult someone trained in the use of fire. It should be kept strictly under control for the landowner's own protection and because he is liable for any damage it might do to other property.

The author points to a tree that is to be retained for timber and game food production as students and biologists look on.

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES IN DELTA HARDOODS

1. Follow recommended forest practices to produce large, high-grade timber.
2. Leave mast-bearing trees where feasible.
3. Leave den trees.
4. Keep fire out at all times.

CATTLE AND HOG DAMAGE TO THE FOREST AND FOREST GAME

1. Cattle, when concentrated on forest areas:
   (a) Destroy hardwood reproduction.
   (b) Browse on pine seedlings in winter and spring under some conditions.
   (c) Use browse in competition with deer.
   (d) Eat acorns.
2. Hogs destroy nests and the young of some game. They compete with game for foods, especially acorns.

Cattle and hogs should be controlled on forest lands where either timber or game is being produced.

PONDS

Ponds one acre and larger will provide excellent fishing when stocked and properly managed, improve the habitat for game, and supply water for fire fighting.

COMMON FOREST TREES AND THEIR RELATIVE WILDLIFE FOOD VALUE

Tree	*Squirrel*		*Deer*		*Turkey*	*Quail*
	Fruit	*Buds*	*Browse*	*Fruit*	*Fruit*	*Fruit*
Oak* (Groups)						
White	H	M	L	H	H	H
Red	H	M	L	H	H	H
Water (Pin)	H	M	M	H	H	H
Hickory	H	....	L	....	....	....
Pecan (Sweet)	H	....	L	M	....	....
Beech	H	....	M	....	H	H
Gum						
Black	H	....	M	H	H	....
Tupelo	H	....	M	H	....	....
Red	M	M	L	....	M	M
Magnolia	M	....	M	....	M	M
Sweetbay	M	....	H	....	M	M
Ash	M	....	M	....	M	M
Elm	L	M	L	....	L	L
Hackberry	M	....	L	....	L	L
Yellow Poplar	L	....	M	....	....	L
Cottonwood	....	....	L	....	....	....
Willow	....	M	M	....	....	....
Black Cherry	M	....	M	....	M	M
Mulberry—Red	M	....	H	....	H	H
Locust	H	....	M	M	H	H
Dogwood (Flower)	M	....	M	....	H	M
Maple	M	M	M	....	M	M
Sycamore	M	....	L	....	....	....
Pine	M	....	L	....	M	H
Cypress	M	....	M	....	L	....

H—High Use. L—Low Use. M—Medium Use.

... Information lacking or not used.

The following shrubs and vines are valuable to wild life: youpon, galberry, huckleberry, blackberry, crabapple, haw, arrow wood, titi, wild azalea, silverbell, sumac, French mulberry, sweetleaf, deciduous holly, smilax (greenbrier or sawbrier), vine honeysuckle, rattan, yellow jessamine, grapes, muscadine, and buckvine.

Lake Concordia Fishing Rodeo

By Dewey Wills

THE FIRST ANNUAL fishing rodeo sponsored by Ferriday Chamber of Commerce was held on July 4, 5, 6 and July 11, 12, and 13 at Lake Concordia in Concordia Parish. Lake Concordia is a beautiful 1300 acre lake, a part of the Old River Channel and located in Concordia Parish near Ferriday, La.

To promote Ferriday and Concordia Parish the Ferriday Chamber of Commerce discussed the possibility of having a fishing rodeo on Concordia Lake at one of their regular meetings in May. The response from members of the Chamber of Commerce and other sportsmen in Ferriday were so favorable that the ball started rolling immediately. John Fudickar was appointed Chairman to work out all details for the rodeo. Mr. Fudickar contacted the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission office in Ferriday and asked if it would be possible for this department to tag a number of fish and release them in Lake Concordia a few days prior to fishing rodeo. It was planned to obtain a sponsor for each fish and place a $10.00 prize on each tagged fish. The Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission agreed to assist in any way possible in promoting the fish rodeo. Our department released 29 tagged bass, 29 tagged bream, 25 tagged crappie (white perch). All of these tagged fish had a sponsor that agreed to pay $10.00 to anyone catching same, with the exception of one 6 pound bass which had a $50.00 prize for anyone catching this one. At the end of the rodeo a total of 10 tagged fish had been caught (2 bass and 8 bream). It is planned to continue the tagged fish program of awarding prizes to anyone lucky enough to catch a tagged fish throughout the year. In this manner it is hoped that interest will continue with reference to the rodeo which will be an annual event.

Chairman John Fudicker, left, is shown above awarding Hugh Bateman an outdoor motor as first place prize in the bass division.

Young Billey Bonnette, age 11, gave his adult sportsmen plenty of competition in the bass division. He is shown with a four pound, ten ounce black bass caught in Lake Concordia.

The weighing stations were located at three boat camps on the lake where there was much activity at all time. Also there was a rodeo official traveling the lake in a motor boat at all times to weigh fish on the lake. In this manner the fisherman did not have to stop fishing and carry his catch to a weighing station. The official was in a boat clearly marked and the fisherman only had to wave the weigher down to have his fish checked. This has never been tried at any other rodeo as far as we know.

Fishing started effectively at 3:00 A.M. on July 4 through 12:00 midnight July 6, and 3:00 A.M. July 7 through 6:00 P.M. July 13. The winners were awarded prizes at 6:00 P.M. at Sportsmens Lodge on Lake Concordia. Winners that were not available were mailed certificates entitling them to their prizes. Following is a complete breakdown of each prize winner in each division of the rodeo.

Bass

1. Hugh Bateman—Ferriday—5 Lb. 3 Oz.—Red Worm
2. Bill Harding—Baton Rouge—5 Lb. 2 Oz.—Red Worm
3. Lloyd Rivett—Baton Rouge—5 Lb. ½ Oz.—Creame Worm.

Bream

1. Frank Goodman—New Roads, La.—10½ Oz.—Red Worm
2. Bobby Comer—Vidalia, La.—8½ Oz.—Red Worm
3. N. L. Reeves—Ferriday—8½ Oz.—Red Worm

Bobby Comer and N. L. Reeves actually tied for first prize with bream that weighed 8½ Oz. but Comer was adjudged because of the fact that he had weighed in and registered his fish earlier than had Reeves.

Crappie

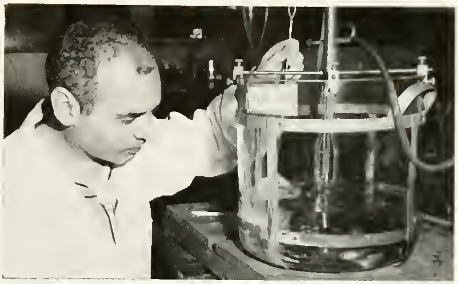
1. Bill Griffin—Ferriday—Earth Worm

Some remarks from individuals who were very instrumental in making the fish rodeo a success are as follows:

H. B. Thompson, Jr. of the Sportsmens Lodge says "Just the beginning of a wonderful annual fishing contest. The water weighing boat was most successful. It gave the fisherman two extra hours of fishing in the morning without fear of their big one dying before being weighed."

Ferriday Chamber of Commerce Officers: P. H. Farmer, President; Joe Joseph, Vice President; M. M. Perkins, Jr., Secretary; John Fudickar, Chairman-Fish Rodeo Committee.

LSU RESEARCH TO ASSIST FISH AND FISHERMEN



Conservation is being aided by water pollution studies at Louisiana State University. Using fish from Louisiana streams, graduate student Robert M. Grodner of Miami Beach, Fla., tests the effects of wastes from oil refineries in the state on the fish and their food chain. The research is sponsored by seven oil companies which seek ways to purify their waste products.

Louisiana's fish—and fishermen—stand to profit from research on stream pollution being conducted at Louisiana State University.

The research involves study of the effect of oil refinery effluents (waste materials) on aquatic life and the resistance to chemical poisoning of native game fish. Scientists term this resistance "toxicity tolerance."

The LSU studies have been supported by two industrial fellowships, sponsored by the Louisiana Petroleum Refiner's Waste Control Council, the Louisiana Department of Wild Life and Fisheries and the LSU department of zoology, entomology and physiology.

The research is currently being conducted by Robert M. Grodner, graduate student from Miami Beach, Fla. Grodner, who has held the fellowship since 1955, is working toward his Ph.D. degree in Zoology.

Used as test animals in the research are the blue gill sunfish and animals in the food chain—water fleas; flatworms; copepods and amphipods (microscopic animals belonging to the same class as shrimp and crabs); and snails. All are part of the natural environment of Louisiana.

Grodner explained that it is as important to discover the effects of pollutants on animals in the chain as on the fish directly. "If you destory the food chain, you have, in effect, destroyed the fish."

The animals are kept in aquariums containing University Lake water, which is considered a normal environment. Each morning a number are collected from the aquariums and placed in varying concentrations of the test chemical. Here they stay from one to four days. At the end of the period, the specimens are again counted and from the number surviving, researchers can discover how toxic the chemical is to different animals.

Results are reported to the refineries which have submitted samples of their effluents. If their waste products are highly toxic, the companies themselves investigate how they can remedy the problem, Grodner explained.

"The LSU laboratory does not recommend or advise action, it merely reports results," he said.

However, if the industries do not correct a dangerous situation themselves, the state, through its monitoring service, usually steps in and calls for purification of the effluent, he said.

Although specific information on refinery wastes is confidential, general information, not identifying the refinery or the area, is distributed to the sponsoring refiners and may be published in technical journals.

In addition to investigating effluents, Grodner and his assistants study the effects of organic compounds, such as insecticides, in cooperation with the Water Pollution Division of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. For instance, in an attempt to control the fire ant, insecticides have been sprayed over the countryside. Rains wash these chemicals into streams, where they may have a detrimental effect on the water population.

The researchers have also considered the effects of salt water, oxygen supply, and acidity on toxicity. They have discovered that fresh-water fish will swallow more water in salt solutions than in fresh water, and that the mucuous covering of their bodies is destoryed by some salt solutions.

They have also determined that oxygen supply is correlated with toxicity, for decrease in oxygen supply increases susceptibility to the chemicals. Since toxic material and lower oxygen concentrations often occur simultaneously in polluted waters, researchers must consider this when establishing safe minimum concentrations of chemicals tolerated by water animals.

Grodner's personal project has been investigation of whether the egg is more susceptible to damage by pollutants than the grown animal. Using eggs of the snail Limnaea, Grodner is now attempting to find out whether the egg will hatch or develop after exposure to chemicals. Following his mortality studies, he will study the effect on length of life, induced abnormalities, and reproduction.

Grodner believes that his studies with the developing snail eggs are among the first pollution studies using snail eggs as test organisms.

This kind of information is not normally found in textbooks, Grodner stated, because the animal life and industries vary in different sections of the country. Scientists, therefore, must discover the information for their own areas.

Industries cooperating in the research are the following oil companies: Esso, Shell, American, Conoco, Cities Service, Citcon, and Bay Petroleum.

Students who have assisted Grodner are Otis Payne, Springhill; Norman Betz, Garyville; Harold Morre, Winnsboro; and Ralph Magoun, Clinton, Miss.

Dr. Harry J. Bennet, professor of zoology, is faculty adviser.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

According to Homer Circle, Chairman of Committee on Fish Names, Outdoor Writers' Association of America, much confusion is possible with respect to common names of several salt-water fishes.

For example, the fish most commonly known as the bluefish has also been called snap macherel, skipjack, fatback, snapping mackerel, tailor, snapper, horse mackerel, greenfish, and skip mackerel. Channel bass may travel under such monikers as red drum, redfish, pescado colorado, bull redfish, bass, red bass, sea bass and spotted bass. While the thresher shark is sometimes referred to as fox shark, swingletail, longtail shark, fish shark, sea fox, sea ape, pez zorro and pesca pavone.

The author, at left, and Harvey Bullis, Jr., director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service marine fisheries laboratory at Pascagoula, inspect preserved fish specimens in one of the laboratory research rooms. Mr. Leffler visted the laboratory and Gulf coast region in April.

The Conservation Partnership

By Ross Leffler

Assistant Secretary, Department of the Interior

Our heritage of abundant wildlife, and the public recreation which is dependent upon it, is in a critical situation. There is an awareness of the mounting threats to fish and wildlife values. By the hand of man, moved by the force of an American population growth at a pace which startles us, living space for wildlife is being transformed—many times unnecessarily—into sites for housing and industries and sometimes into areas for sewerage, waste or trash disposal. We also have lands taken out of wildlife use for transportation, power, clothing and food. We have conflicts for water supplies and uses which are growing more and more complex.

Don't get the impression I have the philosophy of a Canute commanding that there be no progress. That we must have if America is to maintain its position, but it should be achieved without loss of fish and wildlife values. Nor should you try to find in my remarks the slightest desire to perpetuate the arguments which have long split many of the governmental agencies involved in resource management. In my opinion, all that has been accomplished by this senseless feuding has been the retarding of progress. In words so wisely used over the years by foes of bigotry, "There are many roads up the mountain, but only one moon shines on the top." Similarly, there are many ways to carry on good conservation practices, but only one goal: To preserve for those who come after use the opportunity to enjoy the rich heritage of natural resources which have made possible our way of life.

I am not saying good soil and water conservation are enough to insure fish and wildlife conservation, or that you can have the latter without the former. Neither am I using the shopworn expression that conservation is wise use. Sometimes in our business, it may not be wise use to use at all. Circumstances will define such prescriptions. Actually, our resource management to be successful and meet all public needs now and in the future must be a balanced program in which are integrated all of our conservation practices with none advanced at the expense of the other.

To attain that objective at the earliest possible moment—because delays cost us valuable ground—I again say: Let's forget the mistakes of the past by our various agencies, stop being "agin-ers" and start developing answers to our resource problems which we are all *for*.

I am not a purveyor of panaceas; thus you do not find me here proposing answers to this, that or the other problem which is confronting us in the fish and wildlife field. Development of the answers is the job of our trained personnel in research and management, and I don't mean just those who work for the federal government, although—bless them—those boys do a real job for us, and they don't get rich at it either, unfortunately.

It is my role in the Secretarial family in Interior to discuss and develop policy for Department adoption which will stimulate progressive fish and wildlife thinking and encourge its application in management by all agencies and individuals everywhere and on the scale the future demands.

As I have said before, ours is a most complex problem. We must promote the preservation of land and water habitat for fish and wildlife as a long-range investment by any and every means possible—acquisition, easement, lease, incentive or what-have-you. We must speed research to develop management techniques which produce more fish and wildlife on the areas still available. We must help other agencies make similar advances so their products from the land can be supplied in greater quantities from less areas, too, and thus reduce competition for the living space needed by fish and wildlife. There are many other inter-related problems also requiring study and action.

How can we best accomplish all these tasks? That question leads me to the heart of what I have to say. It involves a most important federal fish and wildlife policy. I have mentioned it a number of times; Secretary Seaton has referred to it also. Usually our comments have been incidental to generalized discussions of our program planning. I feel, however, that it is so important, so vital to our success, that it should be discussed in detail and thoroughly understood by everybody. It also must be practiced by everybody.

I refer to the partnership approach in fish and wildlife. *It is the only way we can do all the jobs which have to be done.* Don't let anybody kid you into thinking any of us can get along without the other.

First of all, if either state or federal agencies, or the private organizations, were loaded with money and manpower—which they're not—individually we still wouldn't have enough capacity to get all the research and management jobs done in time to escape the fish and wildlife losses we seek to avoid. Even under the best of circumstances for all of us, our only hope is in the closest kind of teamwork which will eliminate waste effort and make our combined contribution as effective and as fast as is humanly possible.

The states are looking to the federal government for—and they deserve to receive—guidance and coordination for their activities in areas of mutual interest. In research, they would like to know what is being done by whom on fish and wildlife problems that concern them and how they can handle their share of the investigation pattern without duplicating someone else's effort. They also want a central source of information on latest developments in management practices; they seek constructive criticism on new types of programs they develop, and they want to know how they can contribute most effectively to the management of species which are the primary responsibility of the federal government, but which are also of major interest to them.

It is our intention to establish our activity pattern in the partnership to provide these services—to discharge these responsibilities in a way which will meet the important needs of the states in resource programs for tomorrow.

So that there may be no misinterpretation about the effect of the partnership approach, I want to make several points very clear. I do not feel that the development of a conservation team means the federal government is surrendering responsibilities. Neither can I interpret willingness to cooperate as an invasion of someone else's so-called rights. I am also absolutely certain that any claim the Fish and Wildlife Service is placing itself in the position of being told what to do by the states when it cooperates with them is utterly ridiculous.

After all, I know the state fish and game departments have the same objectives as the Service. It can't be otherwise. There are no double standards in conservation. I also know that the states have been demonstrating a real desire to work closely with the Service. The Flyway Councils, like the Atlantic Waterfowl Council and the Mississippi Council, are an excellent case in point. The development of flyway management plans through these councils with representatives of the Service and the States sitting down together, pooling knowledge and jointly coming up with guidelines for future action is the only way to operate. It's the only worthwhile approach—the partnership way.

This is not a one-way street, however, I've been stressing the Service's responsibilities to meet certain needs of the states. The states also have responsibilities in this partnership. Primarily, it is up to them to keep the program objectives of *all* states—in the case of migratory as well as resident species—always geared to the best interests of the resource rather than temporary local harvesting benefits. On this one, I think there has been a very good record made in recent years. The credit for this belongs to the fine professional biologists in the state ranks who have been spark-plugging their part of the drive to promote the cooperative effort generally.

We are developing our partnership programs not on the basis of political boundaries, but from patterns provided by wildlife itself. We must encourage this kind of planning which rises above the limits of local thinking and which meets broader basic needs. Again, I mention the flyway management plan as the good example. In connection with such cooperative programs, we have a joint responsibility to avoid the pitfall of establishing projects which either have not been checked for conformity to flyway plan objectives or which fail to meet that test even though they provide a temporary local benefit. If we are going to get the most from our efforts from now on, we want to make each move count. The only way we can do that is to make certain all our projects conform to a pattern for action which has been jointly agreed upon as the right way to meet our future needs. There can be no exceptions.

When we have this kind of broad planning, such as the flyway approach for waterfowl, the Service must have specific national policies to guide field action. There must be uniformity of execution. Regionally, there cannot be six different kinds of performance and have management plans efficiently executed in flyways which extend not only beyond Service regional lines but beyond the boundaries of our country. Although, under treaty enactments, responsibility for migratory bird management rests with federal government, I again think these policies should be developed in consultation with our neighbors in North America and with the state fish and game departments and the private conservation agencies which have direct interest and whose activities in connection with the flyway program also will be affected.

Our partnership goes beyond the team effort in planning and in action. We must also talk the same language so that there can be resource-minded public understanding rather than conservation confusion. Only with that understanding will there be public support for our programs. Only with that support will we git the appropriations and authorizations needed to carry them out.

In these discussions, I have used only the example of waterfowl planning as an area for cooperative effort. The need applies equally to other programs in which the states and private agencies and the federal government have interests. It must be met in all cases. I leave you with a conviction and a promise:

1. There can be adequate fish and wildlife conservation progress only if we have complete cooperation.
2. It will be the policy of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to constantly promote the conservation partnership approach.

Now, let's get going!

Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo

By Mel Washburn

RUNNING true to form, the 1958 Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo, held July 17, 18 and 19, was again a record breaker. Although the registered number of contestants was the second largest in the history of this internationally famous fishing contest, the number of new species of fish added to the catch was not only the most spectacular but the largest in the history of this event. Outstanding, of course, was the 463 pound blue marlin brought in by James Meriwether, of Shreveport. This was not only the first blue marlin ever brought into rodeo headquarters but the largest fish ever caught on hook and line in rodeo history.

Captured on the second day of the rodeo, Mr. Meriwether, fishing from his yacht the "Melou" hooked and landed his fish in 25 minutes off Southwest Pass about 35 miles off shore. It measured 11′ 7″ in length and was truly a monster.

Other firsts recorded in rodeo annals were three amberjacks, one yellowfin tuna and a permit.

Along with the new species of fish recorded were several instances of true sportsmanship, one in particular was that of charter boat Captain Bob Mitcheltree who brought in three huge dolphin, anyone of which would have won first prize during the rodeo, and two large white marlin caught and brought to rodeo headquarters the day before the rodeo officially opened and, of course, were not eligible for prizes.

More than 1700 anglers were officially entered in the 1958 rodeo and it is estimated that approximately 500 boats participated, one of them coming from as far away as St. Louis, Missouri. With blue marlin, white marlin, sailfish, tuna, amberjacks, and wahoos being added to the nine tarpon that were weighed in, the big fish categories were more exciting than ever before, along with the 495-pound jewfish that was taken by the skin diving team of Arnoult, Charm, Hill and Lambert, which set a new record of 495 lbs., in the jewfish category.

The winning tarpon, taken by Robert E. Collins, of New Orleans, weighed 123 lbs., and was 6′ 6″ in length. Strangely enough, Mr. Collins' tarpon was not only the champion of the rodeo but it was the first tarpon caught and as a consequence brought a shower of trophies for the captor. The smallest tarpon was caught by John Farac, of Empire, and weighed 41 lbs. 12 oz. Major General Ray Hufft won the trophy for the largest sailfish, and his fishing companion, Leander Perez, Jr., caught the second largest sailfish.

As has been the case in recent years, fishermen from all over the South and from as far away as Chicago, New York, California, and New Mexico were contestants in this year's rodeo. But, one of the most enthusiastic participants was Mrs. Earl K. Long, wife of Louisiana's Governor, who, for the last three years, has been a Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo enthusiast. Fishing with her were Ernest S. Clements, former Director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and now a Public Service Commissioner of Louisiana, and his wife, Mrs. Clements. Another dignitary who made his debut as a rodeo contestant this year was Rear Admiral J. A. Kerrins, of the Eighth Coast Guard District. The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was represented by F. Lamar Clement, Director, and Mrs. Clement, and Ray Whatley, a member of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, with his wife, all fishing from the commission's patrol boat, the "Zoric".

Mrs. Earl K. Long, wife of Governor Long, and T. J. McMahon, president of the 1958 Grand Isle Tarpon rodeo, as they appeared during the prize award ceremonies on the final night of the rodeo.

T. J. McMahon, President, Urban Wilkinson, General Chairman, along with Past Presidents Judge Walter B. Hamlin, Dr. Don Peterson, Frank A. Von der Haar and A. Miles Coe, with a host of other dignitaries were on the platform for the award ceremonies on the final night and participated in the presentation of trophies and prizes.

Hugh M. Wilkinson, founder of the Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo, along with the late John Donovan, in 1928, presented the Barataria trophy which is the premiere award for a rodeo winner and has been since the inception of this event. City Councilman Vic Schiro, of New Orleans, presented the City of New Orleans trophy and Louis Gottlieb, of Baton Rouge, presented the Baton Rouge trophy. Sheriff William S. Coci, of Jefferson Parish, although confined to a wheelchair due to a recent accident, was also on the platform to present his trophy to the winner.

The most inposing array of prizes ever offered winners of the Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo was on display during the three days of the rodeo and attested to the hard work and ability of Henry Herr, this year's new chairman of the prize committee. It was estimated that approximately $20,000 worth of prizes and trophies were awarded. The prize winners in the various categories are as follows:

GRAND PRIZE: Parker Saussy, New Orleans, La.

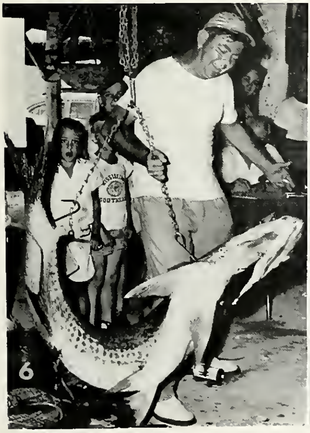
2ND GRAND PRIZE: Jimmy Arnoult, Harahan, La.

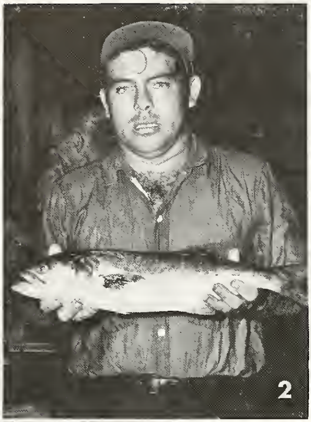
3RD GRAND PRIZE: B. W. Bartlett, New Orleans, La.

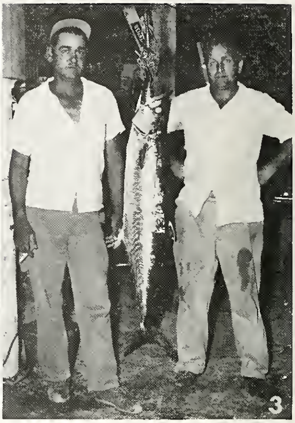
TARPON: First, Robert E. Collins, New Orleans, 123 lbs., second, Kenneth Plaisance, Golden Meadow, 103 lbs.,

(Continued to Page 15)

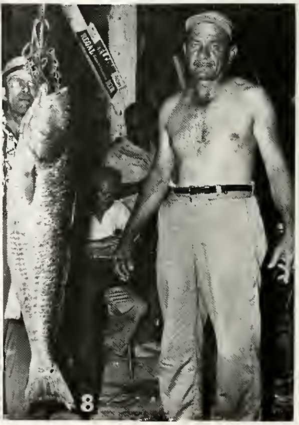
1. William J. Scheffler, Gretna, with his prize winning dolphin at the Grand Isle Tarpon rodeo. On left is Marion Higgins, weigh master. 2. Nick C. Bouzon, New Orleans, with his first prize wahoo. 3. Tommy Doucet, Galiano, with the top prize barracuda. 4. Steve Collins, holding his father's first prize speckled trout. 5. Ted Pittman, New Orleans, with his top prize bonito. 6. Robert E. Collins, New Orleans, happily admiring his champion tarpon. 7. Leander Perez, Jr., displaying his second prize sailfish to Urban Wilkinson, general chairman of the Grand Isle Tarpon rodeo. 8. Major General Raymond Hufft with his first prize sailfish.

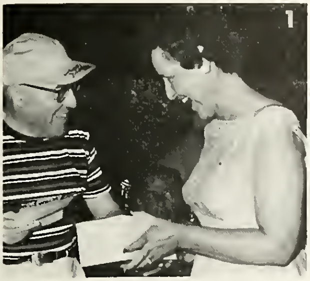




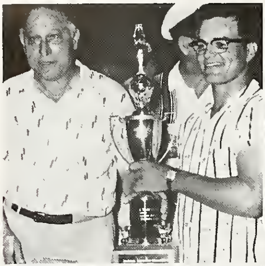


1. The Jefferson parish skin diving team with their first prize winning jewfish. 2. Edwin Austin, of Lafitte, with his prize winning bluefish. 3. Truett Boswell (right) with John Kirsh, with his first prize winning king mackerel. 4. Gibson Collins, of Golden Meadow, with the top tripletail. 5. William Wagner, Jr., with his third prize tarpon. 6. A. Dolyman (left) and Captain Bob Mitcheltree with the first amberjack ever registered at rodeo headquarters. 7. A. J. Unger (left) with the prize winning jewfish caught on hook and line. 8. John Fischtiur, of Empire, with his first prize winning redfish.

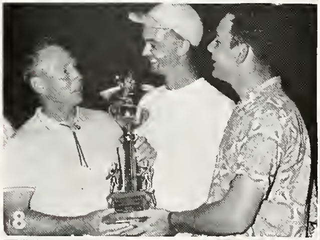




1. Judge Walter B. Hamlin presenting a corsage to Mrs. Lamar Clement and 2. Judge Hamlin presenting a corsage to Mrs. Urban C. Wilkinson. 3. Mrs. Earl K. Long (right) wife of Louisiana's Governor, being interviewed on radio upon her arrival for participation in the 1958 Grand Isle Tarpon rodeo. In center, Director Lamar Clement of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheires Commission. 4. Rear Admiral Joseph C. Kerrins (left) Commandant of the Eighth Coast Guard District, presenting a plaque to Captain Roy A. Comeaux as a Coast Guard auxiliary award for safe boating. In the background, left to right, are Captain C. P. Claudino, Training Officer Ted Zwart and Past Commander Sidney Boisdore, all of the Fourth Division of the U. S. Coast Guard auxiliary. 5. The annual birthday cake ceremonies in Clarence Kammer's store, at Lafitte. Left to right, are Mr. Kammer, Urban C. Wilkinson, general chairman, T. J. McMahon, president, Frank A. Von der Haar, past president, and Hugh M. Wilkinson, former general chairman and founder of the rodeo. 6. Mrs. Lamar Clement watching the weighing in of her king mackerel which barely missed winning a prize. 7. Mrs. Ray Whatley, of Alexandria, wife of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries commissioner, with the bluefish she captured on the rodeo. 8. Judge Walter B. Hamlin presenting a corsage to Mrs. Ernest S. Clements, wife of the former director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries commission and now Public Service commissioner.



1. Frank A. Von der Haar (left) presenting the John Donovan memorial trophy to Kenneth Plaisance, Golden Meadow, for the second largest tarpon caught during the rodeo. 2. Parker Saussy presenting the trophy to Curtis Fabre, (right) Montegut, for the largest sheepshead. 3. Frank A. Von der Haar presenting a trophy to Gibson Collins, of Golden Meadow, for the largest tripletail, with Collins' son, Steve, on right. 4. Sheriff William S. Coci, Jefferson parish, congratulating Robert Collins on winning the rodeo. 5. Major General Raymond Hufft (left) receiving trophy for the largest sailfish presented by Urban C. Wilkinson, general chairman of the rodeo. Standing back of Mr. Wilkinson is Dr. Don Peterson, past president of the rodeo. 6. Victor Schiro, New Orleans City councilman, presenting the City of New Orleans trophy to Robert Collins, rodeo champion. 7. A. E. Shipp, of Gladewater, Texas, receiving the Arthur Van Pelt memorial trophy from Frank A. Von der Haar for the largest cobia. 8. Members of the Bajaos skin diving team receiving their trophy for entering the largest sheepshead, presented by James Arnoult, chief deputy sheriff of Jefferson parish. 9. Hugh M. Wilkinson, founder of the Grand Isle Tarpon rodeo, presenting his Barataria trophy to Robert Collins, winner of the rodeo. 10. Hugh M. Wilkinson presenting the president's trophy to Mr. Collins with T. J. McMahon (left) president of the 1958 Grand Isle Tarpon rodeo. 11. Lamar Clement, Director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries commission, presenting the trophy to John Fischtiur for his prize winning redfish.



TARPON RODEO

(Continued from Page 10)

third, William A. Wagner, Jr., New Orleans, 96¼ lbs., and fourth, Clarence Gartouchics, Venice, 95¼ lbs.

FIRST TARPON CAUGHT: Robert E. Collins, New Orleans, 123 lbs.

LARGEST TARPON CAUGHT FIRST DAY: Robert E. Collins, New Orleans, 123 lbs.

LARGEST TARPON CAUGHT SECOND DAY: O. P. Pitre, Cut Off, 53 lbs.

LARGEST TARPON CAUGHT THIRD DAY: Kenneth Plaisance, Golden Meadow, 103 lbs.

SMALLEST TARPON CAUGHT FIRST DAY: Lou Friedman, Venice, 69¾ lbs.

SMALLEST TARPON CAUGHT SECOND DAY: John Farac, Empire, 41¾ lbs.

SMALLEST TARPON CAUGHT THIRD DAY: Glenn Plaisance, Golden Meadow, 43 lbs.

SMALLEST TARPON CAUGHT DURING ENTIRE RODEO: John Farac, Empire, 41¾ lbs.

BLUEFISH: First, Edward C. Austin, Lafitte, 3 lbs. 1 oz., second, J. T. Howell, Jackson, 2 lbs. 13 oz., and third, Derryl Morel, Buras, 2 lbs. 12 oz.

BONITO: First, Ted Pittman, New Orleans, 15 lbs., second, C. F. Carter, Jr., Buras, 11 lbs. 12 oz., and third, Jimmy Toups, Galiano, 10 lbs. 12 oz.

COBIA: First, A. E. Shipp, Gladewater, Texas, 44 lbs., 8 oz., second, T. F. Masson, Greggton, Texas, 43 lbs. 8 oz., and third, Duncan Saussy, New Orleans, 35 lbs.

DOLPHIN: First, William J. Scheffler, Gretna, 38 lbs., 8 oz., second, Charles Gerretts, Algiers, 35 lbs., and third, William J. Childress, New Orleans.

JACKFISH: First, Jimmy Toups, Galiano, 29 lbs., second, Edless Williams, Golden Meadow, 28 lbs., 8 oz., and third, Lou Friedman, Venice, 27 lbs. 8 oz.

KING MACKEREL: First, Truett Boswell, New Orleans, 35 lbs. 12 oz., second, Sam E. Pons, New Orleans, 33 lbs. 4 oz., and third, Sam E. Pons, New Orleans, 32 lbs. 8 oz.

SPANISH MACKEREL: First, James D. McGovern, Jr., New Orleans, 4 lbs. 13 oz., second, W. Ellender, Jr., Houma, 4 lbs. 9 oz., and third, Ashton Reinecke, New Orleans, 4 lbs. 4 oz.

REDFISH: First, John Fischtiur, Empire, 33 lbs., second, R. J. Bertrand, Opelousas, 26 lbs. 12 oz., and third J. C. Ballay, Empire, 25 lbs. 4 oz.

SHEEPSHEAD: Curtis Fabre, Montegut, 7 lbs. 10 oz., second, Curtis Fabre, Montegut, 7 lbs. 9 oz., and third, G. J. Fanguy, Houma, 7 lbs. 7 oz.

SPECKLED TROUT: First, Gibson Collins, Golden Meadow, 5 lbs. 5 oz., second, Steve Collins, Golden Meadow, 4 lbs. 13 oz., and third D. C. Dick, Cut Off, 4 lbs. 10 oz.

TRIPLETAIL: First, Gibson Collins, Golden Meadow, 28 lbs., second, Desmond Savoie, Raceland, 11 lbs. 12 oz., and third, Jo Ann Vinet, Cut Off, 5 lbs. 9 oz.

LARGEST BARRACUDA: Tommy Doucet, Galiano, 25 lbs. 4 oz.(Line Fishing).

LARGEST JEWFISH: (Line Fishing) A. J. Unger, New Orleans 116 lbs. 8 oz.

LARGEST MANTA RAY: None caught.

LARGEST MARLIN: (Blue) Jim Meriwether, Shreveport, 463 lbs. 8 oz.

LARGEST SAILFISH: Gen. Raymond F. Hufft, New Orleans, 54 lbs.

SECOND LARGEST SAILFISH: Lee Perez, Jr., Plaquemine, 41 lbs. 12 oz.

LARGEST SHARK: Noland St. Pierre, Golden Meadow, 10 ft. 1½ inches.

LARGEST TUNA: Jack T. Styron, New Orleans, 53 lbs. 4 oz.

LARGEST WAHOO: Nick C. Bouzon, New Orleans, 60 lbs. 12 oz.

Lamar Clement (right) Director of Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, congratulating James Meriwether, of Shreveport, on his capture of a 463-pound blue marlin brought in during the Grand Isle Tarpon rodeo of 1958. In the center, Mrs. Meriwether, who was with her husband on the "Melou" when the fish was taken off Southwest Pass.

SKIN DIVING DIVISION

LARGEST COBIA: Riviere, Smith & Peperone Team, New Orleans, 46 lbs. 12 oz.

LARGEST JACKFISH: Means, Bonck & Alba Team, New Orleans, 26 lbs. 8 oz.

LARGEST JEWFISH: Arnoult, Charm, Hill and Lambert, New Orleans, 495 lbs.

LARGEST RED SNAPPER: Riviere, Smith and Peperone, New Orleans, 14 lbs.

LARGEST SHEEPSHEAD: The Bajaos Diving Team (Dan Nelson, leader) New Orleans, 5 lbs. 2 oz.

DAILY PRIZE—FIRST DAY: August Piglione, Port Sulphur.

DAILY PRIZE—SECOND DAY: Dr. S. D. Gore, New Orleans.

DAILY PRIZE—THIRD DAY: Stan Rush, Baton Rouge.

SEAMANSHIP AWARD: Boat "TEMIJI", skipper, Roy Como, owner, Smith Brothers.

TWO BEST LADY FISHERETTES: Mrs. Milton Egle, Golden Meadow, Jo Ann Vinet, Cut Off.

BEST ALL AROUND FISHERMAN: Gibson Collins, Golden Meadow, first speckled trout, first tripletail.

BEST DECORATED BOAT: "Little Eagle II", Milton Egle, owner.

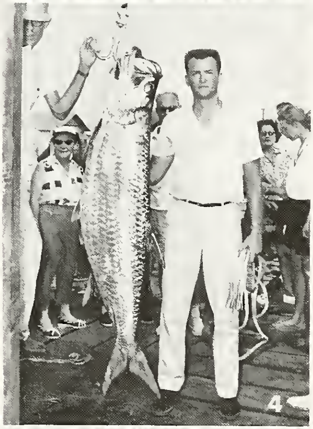
LARGEST CATFISH: A. E. Mills, New Orleans, 5 lbs. 1 oz.

INDIGESTION TAKES FISH!

Do fish die of indigestion? Not usually, but Wyoming Game and Fish officials are beginning to wonder.

The Department received a report from David E. Lawrence, Big Piney, who found a 26-pound Mackinaw trout dead on the shore of Middle Piney Lake. The fish was 39 inches long, 10 inches wide and 24 inches around the girth.

Concerned at what caused the trout's death, Lawrence performed an autopsy and came up with the verdict—acute indigestion. The trout's stomach contained a sizable ball of monofilament line, several large lead sinkers, three spinners, one minnow hook, two regular hooks, one swivel and several bones all massed together.



(1) Mrs. C. M. Richard with her second prize bluefish, first in the ladies division, taken in the Cameron deep sea fishing rodeo July 4, 5, and 6. (2) Barbara Vincent with a tarpon caught on the last day. (3) Buster Rogers with the third prize winning tarpon. (4) Billy Conover, Jr., with the second largest tarpon taken during the rodeo. (5) M. J. Heimingdinger with his prize winning sailfish.

Southwest Louisiana Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo

By Calvin G. Blackwell

WHILE Independence Day speeches, picnics, and fireworks displays were the chief attractions for most of the country, residents of the Lake Charles area held their annual deep sea fishing rodeo July 4, 5, and 6, off the coast of Cameron, Louisiana.

Except for the war years and 1957, this has been in uninterrupted annual event since its inception in 1937 by Neal J. Bryan who felt the need for such an event for the enjoyment of sportsmen of the Southwest Louisiana area. However, with an ever increasing entry, this year with an all time high of 411, it may well mushroom into undreamed of proportions. Last year's rodeo could not be held, of course, as the whole Cameron area was virtually destroyed by hurricane Audrey. There are few physical reminders of the disaster remaining and rebuilding has taken on such proportions as to make for an actual improvement in the area's general appearance.

Symbolic of the spirit of the local populace is near centenarian Mrs. C. M. Richard of Lake Charles who has participated in every Southwest Louisiana rodeo since its origin and has never failed to bring in a prize fish in at least one category. And the terminology "participation", in this instance, means 100% activity in hard fishing from the specified five A.M. to late afternoon . . . preferably thirty to forty miles out. Exhausted boat crews will wearily attest to this.

Crisp, outspoken, Mrs. Richard is no little annoyed at the fuss and fanfare attendant to her appearance on the docks. To her this is only another of many activities in which she has been engaged in a life span much longer than most of us will see in any state of preservation. Likewise irritated at constant queries regarding her age, Mrs. Richard has curtly refused to divulge this choice bit for many

6. Randy Reed, son of Ham Reed, Sheriff of Calcasieu parish, with the cobia he landed during the Cameron rodeo. 7. Buck Reed with his cobia and 8. The sheriff, himself, with the top prize winning cobia of the rodeo. 9. Larry Fontenot with the first prize winning speckled trout. 10. Mary McNess with the sailfish that won her first prize in the ladies division of the rodeo

years but finally confided that if anyone wanted to figure it out she was born March 28, 1868. This, of course, figures ninety last March 28 but may the saints preserve anyone who makes the designation "old" in her presence. With her customary vigor and determination, she cut short a New York visit and hastily returned to Lake Charles to make her annual preparations for the fishing rodeo but found that there were no boats available and that relatives were skeptical about her participation at all. Contacting Louisiana Public Service Commissioner Ernest Clements, who has assisted her in the past, she explained the urgency of acquiring a boat, whereupon the Wild Life and Fisheries' "Swan II" was placed at her disposal. Over one hurdle, she then called the Chief of Police in Lake Charles who, without hesitation, furnished transportation, chauffeur, and (in effect) a bodyguard for the weekend. And, come 5:00 A.M., July 4, the 1958 Southwest Louisiana Fishing Rodeo was officially opened as the "Swan II" eased away from the docks at Cameron with Mrs. C. M. Richard seated in her deck chair with tackle nearby to begin fishing as soon as possible. Her family was one of the original settlers of Lake Charles and she recalls when the now bustling metropolis was an (oftentimes) muddy street flanked by a few houses and a general store.

To view the many trophies, awards, testimonials, etc., in her reception room is an adventure. On display in this room is a chronological record of one who has garnered every available bit of satisfaction which an oftentimes troubled world has to offer. Always adventurous and spirited, she has plunged into civic projects and physical activities with equal vigor: The Red Cross charter bearing the signature of Woodrow Wilson and the silver cup for winning an automobile race share equal prominence in the display. She was instrumental in organizing the first Red Cross chapter in Southwest Louisiana and received the charter designating the local chapter in 1917. In 1910 there were six automobiles in Lake Charles . . . one of which was owned by Mrs. Richard, the first lady driver in town. During the latter part of the year some upstart had the temerity to challenge her and the other autoists to a race. As post time drew near, all but she and another competitor withdrew

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Agents Harold Schexnaidre of Sorrento and E. J. Cormier of Lafayette are shown with a 500-foot seine that was confiscated on Grand Isle for netting speckled trout on the island in a restricted area.

Wildlife Agents Make Wholesale Arrests

By Ednard Waldo

THIRTY-SIX SHRIMP boat operators have been arrested and charged with violation of Louisiana's new closed season law which went into effect July 1, F. Lamar Clement, Director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, announced, and all await trial at the October session of the courts.

During the first three days of the closed season twenty-one arrests were made by agents of the law enforcement division of the commission, in planes, patrol and speed boats when the shrimp boat operators appeared in restricted areas in a large force in defiance of the law. Their nets and catches were immediately confiscated and the men brought to the various parish jails where they were incarcerated until they made bond. All face a minimum fine of $200 and have suffered the loss of their nets, Rudolph P. Easterly, Chief of the Law Enforcement division said.

Just prior to the arrests attorneys for the shrimp boat owners filed a plea for an injunction restraining the enforcement of the law which had been passed at the last session of the Legislature. The injunction was denied the shrimp boat men by Judge Rene Viosca, the presiding judge.

Confiscated shrimp is removed from the hold of one of the vessels caught during recent raid.

Since July 1, planes and boats of the commission were operating on a twenty-four hour basis, Easterly said. "We drew thirty law enforcement agents from other parts of the state to aid in the enforcement of the new law, and our men were operating everywhere in the restricted areas which comprises all Louisiana coastal and inland waters within a three-mile limit. We were determined to make the law stick," Easterly said. Both Captain Julius Book, Assistant Chief of the Enforcement Division and Easterly personally directed the enforcement agents from the commission's planes while the men operated in patrol boats and smaller speed craft in constant communication by means of walkie-talkies and two-way radios. Plane schedules were staggered so that violators had no idea as to when the patrols might pass by, Book said.

A great majority of the shrimp arrests may be traced directly to the activities of the Commission's Aviation section which made a total of seventy-two flights during the month of July, according to John F. Ellington, Chief of the section. "Forty-two flights were made for the law enforcement division totaling 118:35 hours and the total enforcement flights covered a total of 17,850 miles," Ellington reported.

"The shrimp law was passed to protect our white srhimp crop which was in a sad way and threatened with almost total depletion," James N. McConnell, Chief of the Oyster and Water Bottoms and Commercial Seafood Division said. "The shrimp boats had been taking the small white shrimp crop from their nursery grounds, which are in the restricted area, before they were able to develop fully. These shrimp spawn at sea and the young shrimp come to the nursery grounds to seek protection from predators and to feed and grow. Experiments conducted by our scientists over many years have proved that if afforded this seven week period of protection, the white shrimp will grow two and one half times in size and preliminary surveys of this year's crop by our experimental boats have proved that this is what is happening to the first wave of white shrimp in this year's crop, McConnell said.

"By way of clarifying what we mean by 'waves of shrimp' we mean that the young white shrimp come into the nursery areas from the outer spawning waters in waves since they are not all spawned at the same time and that as wave after wave comes in there will be come small shrimp caught in the open season as well as large. However, our recent test runs have shown that due to the closed season, many of the shrimp caught will be as large as five or six inches," McConnell said.

Of the thirty-six arrested, two vessels were from Texas and ten from Mississippi. All of the trawls were confiscated and their owners have been charged in the district courts with the illegal operation of trawls in closed waters. Ten other violators sought to evade incrimination by cutting away their trawls when pursued, however, agents went back and dragged for the jettisoned nets and recovered and confiscated them.

Those arrested and charged are out on bond; they are:

From Mississippi: Harold Strong, Bay St. Louis; Albert Adolphson, Biloxi; Paul Babuchna, Biloxi; Anthony Casper, Biloxi; Ben Casper, Biloxi; Paul Evanovich, Pass Christian; Arthur Girouard, Biloxi; Tommy Ployor, Biloxi; Orial Rowe, Gulf Shore; and, Joseph Seymour, Biloxi.

From Texas: William A. Gower; Grover and Elijah Rice, Beaumont.

From Louisiana: Irvin Naquin, Little Caillou; Joe Lapeyrouse, Little Caillou; Raymond Coutre, Delacroix Island; Wallace Manuel, Grand Caillou; Richard L. Firmature, Lake Charles; Robert C. Benoit, Lake Charles; Henry Hesse, Welsh; Adolph Caulfield, Jr., Lafitte; Eddie S. Creppel, Jr., Westwego; Ledwich Guidry, Jr., Lafitte; George Guthrie, Jr., Gretna; Lenard Jones, Buras; Leonard Mooty, Lafitte; Eddie Matherne, Lafitte; George Petty, Jr., Lafitte; John Rousch, Westwego; Alex Schouest, Westwego; Charlie Stein, Lafitte; Lawrence Stipelcovich, Empire; Edward Wallace, Crown Point; and, Cornelious White, New Orleans; Robert Berga, Grand Bayou; Anthony Zar, Jr., Lafitte; Lee Roy, Yscloskey.

Captain L. R. Cabirac of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries commission points to boat load of shrimp nets that were confiscated.

In a surprise night raid, four residents of Grand Isle were arrested and charged with seining in restricted waters off Grand Isle beach on the island by agents of the law enforcement division. The men, who agents say have been operating with four other seining parties at night on the island, are: Clifford Sautiny, Joseph E. Lafont, Sr., Emery St. Pierre and Jackson Encelade.

According to agents E. J. Cormier and Harold Schexnayder, who made the arrests, the men were caught in the act of operating the 500-foot seine which was confiscated along with two bushels of fish which had been freshly taken from the net. An insulated cold storage truck belonging to the St.

(Continued to Inside Back Cover)

Two of the shrimp boats that were involved in the violation of the new shrimp closed season law are tied up at the Venice wharf.

Last year at dawn three waterfowl hunters spread their decoys in preparation for an early morning hunt on the vast waterfowl refuge at Pass-a-Loutre near the mouth of the Mississippi river.

Pass-A-Loutre Ready For Action

CHANGES in rules at the Pass-a-Loutre public shooting grounds for the coming season which will allow hunters the use of retrieving dogs, reduce fees and make hunting dates more convenient for the public, were announced by F. Lamar Clement, director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries commission.

Under the new rules adopted by the Commission at its regular open meeting, fees for the two-day hunting periods will be reduced from $10 to five dollars thus making the charge $2.50 for each day of the hunt, Clement said.

Last year the hunts were held on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday of each week. Under the new rules during the coming season the hunts will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday and on Saturday and Sunday in order to provide relaxation in the gunning pressure before each hunt. This will permit the ducks to become dispersed again over the hunting areas before each Saturday hunt starts and the days will also be more conveniently spaced for the hunters. During the past three years 2,752 hunters have availed themselves of the Pass-a-Loutre facilities.

Formerly the use of dogs has been prohibited at the refuge. However, upon the suggestion of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, the use of retrievers will be permitted in order to encourge their use in waterfowl hunting. The use of retrievers is a sound conservation measure, Federation representatives pointed out, since the crippling loss of ducks is greatly reduced.

These few minor changes in the rules and regulations previously in effect will not basically alter the manner in which the hunting has been carried out in previous years, Clement said.

The program this season will be under the direction of Richard Yancey, chief of the refuge division of the commission, who said that all the camps are in the process of being renovated and will be tip-top shape for the first hunting group.

Dates for each hunt will be announced as soon as the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service set the waterfowl season framework and the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission acts on the specific Louisiana waterfowl season.

DOGS CAN BE TRAINED DURING CLOSED SEASON

DOG TRAINERS and hunters may carry sidearms and discharge blank cartridges while handling animals during closed game seasons but cannot take or kill game or birds of any type during their training sessions, according to an Act of the 1958 Legislature, F. Lamar Clement, Director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has announced.

The Act provides for the training of dogs of any breed or species and allows hunters, trainers, or handlers to discharge cartridges without ball ammunition, however, this law does not apply to coon and fox hunters who may pursue their sport at any time, Clement said.

The penalty provisions are as follows:

For the first offense, violator or violators shall be mandatorily fined not less than $25.00 nor more than $75.00 or imprisoned in jail for not more than thirty days, or both.

For the second offense, violator or violators shall be fined not less than $100.00 nor more than $200.00, or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

For the third offense, violator or violators shall be fined not less than $200.00 nor more than $500.00, or imprisonment of not less than sixty days, nor more than ninety days, or both, and license revoked during period of violation, and one year thereafter.

Scallops In Louisiana

By Ednard Waldo

LOUISIANA has prospects for a new seafood industry which may result from the discovery of extensive beds of bay scallops, near the Chandeleur islands, made during an expedition on the research vessel Albacore of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, according to the seafoods section of the commission under which the vessel operates.

The discovery was made recently under the direction of Marine Biologist Percy Viosca and was the first biological study of the extensive marine gardens of the area made with the use of divers with aqua lungs. The survey was one of a series being made which covers an area extending from behind North Island to the Chandeleur light, Viosca said.

"The only other extensive study of these beds was made more than half a century ago and was reported on by M. H. Spaulding in 1906 in the bulletin of the Gulf Biological station. Except for occasional observations incidental to other work, this potentially valuable natural resource at our doorsteps has remained almost unknown," Viosca said.

Some incidental observations in the vicinity of Breton and Grand Gosier islands, toward the south, were made by biologists of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and Viosca has, from time to time, collected specimens and shells of the species in an area some 50 miles in length extending from the Chandeleur light to about Dead Man's Beacon at Breton island.

Armed with this knowledge, an expedition was planned as one of a series to explore more fully the potentialities of the area. A year ago, the same area was found to be the only nursery ground in Louisiana for the pink shrimp species.

The so-called bay scallop, (*Aequipecten gibbus amplicostatus*), is a common habitat of the so-called submarine meadows of the West Florida coast and it was the presence of biologically similar underwater gardens near the Chandeleur islands that led biologist Viosca to suspect that scallops might be present there in commercial quantities.

To this end, Viosca sent down two skin divers, Myles Patureau, of the Albacore, and Ronald Barrett, 5478 Hawthorne Place, of the Loyola School of Biology, to research the bottoms while he made an aerial survey of the vegetation beds with which the scallops are more or less associated.

Operating from the vessel the skin divers brought up quantities of the bay scallops which were immediately tested for edibility and found to be of excellent quality and taste. The scallops brought up by the divers, are about two inches across and do not grow as large as those of the eastern coast, however, for tenderness they cannot be beat, all of the tasters agreed, including James N. McConnell, Chief of the Oyster and Water Bottoms and Seafood Division, who is in charge of the overall picture.

McConnell refused to make any predictions as to the future of the scallop beds as an industry. However, he expressed delight at the discovery. "We are too close to this now to tell and will have to make many more studies before we can say anything positively," McConnell said.

"All that I can say is that these scallops, being of the bay variety, are small but just about as tasty as any I have ever eaten. I am going to ask the commission to close the area to commercial exploitation until we can make further surveys and know in which direction to go," McConnell said.

Skin divers who brought up the first batch of scallops in the re-discovery of Louisiana's almost legendary scallop beds off Chandeleur Islands were Myles Patureau, of the Wild Life and Fisheries' research vessel Albacore, left, and Ronald Barrett, 5478 Hawthorne Place, student in the Loyola School of Biology.

Viosca said that his aerial survey showed that submarine gardens of the type in which the scallops thrive, covered a strip some 50 miles in length and varied in width from about half a mile to some eight miles, the latter in the vicinity of the Free Mason islands. "There are perhaps a hundred square miles in all in which beds of the mollusks should be searched for," he said.

The scallop, Fan Shell or Pecten, is the common name applied to any of the marine, filibranchiate, bivalvee mollusks constituting the family Pectinidae. It is found in deep and shallow waters in most seas. Scallops bear ridged shells and the ridges radiate out from each valve in the shape of a fan. The edges of the shell are sharp and undulating, or scalloped, giving these animals their common name.

The shell of the scallop is opened and closed by a single large muscle, the adductor muscle, which is the only portion of the scallop used for food in the United States. The mantle of the scallop bears numerous complex eyes along its border. Scallops rarely attach themselves to rocks or other substances, swimming about or resting on the bottom on the right valve. About 200 species of scallops are known.

The Louisiana scallops were observed by the skin divers of the Albacore as being in waters varying from four to nine feet in depth. On the west coast, scallops are gathered by dredging, wading for them, and skin diving. However, it is predicted that Louisiana's scallops will not be able to be taken by dredge because this might lead to the destruction of the grasses on the bottoms where the scallops thrive.

Another interesting thing about the scallops observed by the divers was their ability to swim away. "It looked crazy to me to see one of the things encased in its shell propelling itself towards me while I was underwater. I grabbed it and put it in my sack with the others," one of the divers, Barrett, said.

Scallops are not an extensively used household table delicacy in Louisiana because, up until now, they have been imported from far off places. Some scallops being brought frozen, by air, from as far away as Tasmania. The muscle, or edible portion of the imported scallop is usually large enough to be split in four pieces by the packers. The Louisiana bay scallop muscles, unless larger species are found, will probably be served whole as those so far extracted from the mollusks gathered appear to run about the size of the first joint of a man's thumb. But man, believe me, they are real eatin'.

History Of The Mississippi

By Robert W. McGowan

Assistant Professor of Biology, Memphis State University

In the green hills of Minnesota the Mississippi River is born. It begins its life in a narrow cradle only a few feet in width and ends its journey in a wide, fertile valley over 50 miles wide. This trough is the great Mississippi Valley. The river and the valley have their origin in a strange and ancient geologic past.

This is the fascinating story of their creation.

The keynote of all events in Nature is activity. To act is to live; inaction is death. Motion and change are a part of the atom as well as the earthquake, as kindred to the earthworm as to human-kind.

Earth, spinning on its axis, brings to each successive sunset an altered scene; familiar in aspect, but changed in detail. Nature's mills usually grind exceedingly small and exceedingly fine, but the accumulated effect, viewed in the perspective of time, is staggering.

Standing on the Third Chickasaw Bluff in the Shelby Forest State Park area, 18 miles north of Memphis, I look over the Mississippi River and its broad, level flood plain. The landscape stretching below me is a product of motion and change and time. Its varied multitude of living things proceeded from a very dim past into the immediate present. Before my eyes they are in process of change, ceaseless motion.

There is motion in the constantly changing pattern of Earth's surface, in the wearing down of rock, the washing away of soil, and the funneling of raindrops into rivulets, streams, and rivers.

The floor plain and its overlooking bluffs here are kindred in many ways. Both are part of the Lower Mississippi Valley. Both are in an area once covered by the sparkling, turbulent waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Waters that once hurled their waves against a shore located inland as far north as Cairo, Ill.

The nature of their creation, however, is very different. It is a story of creation told in the effects of eons of relentless activity of winds and waters and the restless energies in the earth below.

The Lower Mississippi Valley was created during a dramatic era of earth history, the Cenozoic. This era reaches from present time some 60,000,000 years back into the dim shadows of the past.

The landscape seen from the bluffs, and including the bluffs, is a product of the Pleistocene Period, the latter portion of this great land-forming and landscaping Cenozoic Era.

The valley is very young, geologically. Nearly 200,000,000 years before the Mississippi Valley, as we see it today, was formed, the Great Smoky Mountains of the Applachian chain had raised their expansive land masses to the warmth of the sun. Millions of years of erosion have worn the young, jagged peaks down until now we see the Great Smoky Mountains as a relatively smooth, wooded mountain chain.

These old Appalachians saw drastic changes take place on Earth's surface. The Rocky Mountains were thrust out of the earth, sculptured by wind and water, then elevated still farther.

The Alps and the Himalayan chain, mightiest of Earth's present mountains, were formed by intermittent pulsations and upheavals of the earth's surface.

Billions of tons of rock were pushed and shoved upward to a height of more than two miles to form the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The events that created these mountain ranges set the stage for the discovery of that histroy-making golden nugget in 1848, prelude to the gold rush of 1849.

The waters of the Gulf of Mexico covered the Lower Mississippi Valley during these eventful times of Earth history, the Cenozoic Era. But eventually, this arm of the Gulf of Mexico became filled in by the sediments of the Mississippi River. Finally, the waters of the Gulf receded and a broad, flat valley began its development.

Waters from tiny rivulets and creeks burst from their cradles in the Northern forests. Soon they were joined by a hundred streams and rivers, muddy with the soil from thousands of hilltops. These waters collected together and spilled into a mighty furrow which would carry the Mississippi River southward to the Gulf.

Torrential rains swelled the trench and the waters pushed out of their banks, flooding and dropping their loads of soil on the surrounding area. Gradually, a flat flood plain was created. As the river flowed through the valley, it shifted back and forth across the valley. Levees were built and bluffs were cut into, forming steep banks. Before fanning out into the great alluvial Lower Mississippi Valley, the river flows past rock bluffs 500 feet high at Cape Girardeau, Mo.

While the Lower Mississippi River was shaping and moving its levees and building it broad, flat flood plain, strange events were happening in the ripening lands of its headwaters in the Upper Mississippi Valley.

The snows of winter became so severe that the warmth of the summer sun failed to melt them. Precipitation increased and temperatures decreased. The ice and snow accumulated until ice in the form of great glaciers more than a mile thick covered the Upper Mississippi Valley.

Four times the glaciers descended from the north. Gouging, shoving, digging, they rumbled over the earth, pushing plant and animal life, and billions of tons of rock and dirt, before their waves of destruction. Large boulders are seen today in their final resting place hundreds of miles from their original location.

Imagine a jagged block of ice pushing across a muddy yard. In this same way many new valleys were formed by these monstrous glaciers. Some of our most spectacular mountain scenery was produced by such glacial action. At one time glacial ice extended as far south as Southern Illinois, near Cairo.

Shelby Forest State Park rests on the third bluff. The first bluff overlooks the Mississippi River 62 miles north of Memphis at Fulton, Tenn., and the second at Randolph, about 10 miles below Fulton.

Millions of years in the making, from its source 1,470 feet above sea level, the Mississippi Flows past the bluffs on its 2,466-mile journey to the Gulf of Mexico.

Millions of years in the making, from its source at Little Elk Lake, five miles above Lake Itasca in Northern Minnesota, the mighty river collects waters from more than 100 tributaries—the St. Croix, the Chippewa, the Rick and Illinois, the Meramec, the Yazoo. Waters gather from 31 states and two Canadian provinces, draining approximately two-fifths of the United States.

The intervals between glacier formation were times of rising temperatures. The glaciers melted and retreated into the colder Northlands, exposing Earth's surface for rehabitation.

Mammals now became the lords of creation. Great American mastodons browsed in large herds in the Mississippi Valley. The royal bison and the wild horse, a relative of the modern horse, roamed the lands. Modern types of animals, such as wolves, pumas, foxes, raccoons, skunks, and weasels were abundant.

True wild horses are found now only in Asia and Africa. The broncos and mustangs of our Western states are not true wild horses. They are descendants of the domesticated horse brought over from Europe.

The strangest creature during these changing times was perhaps the great ground-sloth. Short-legged and club-footed, clumsy and elephant-sized, these curious beasts made their way from South America and spread over the United States.

President Thomas Jefferson was the first to collect and study the remains of the great sloth. Finding a claw in a cave in Virginia, he thought it was from a huge lion.

The flowering plants now reached out and spread over the earth. Even tropical plants thrived under the climatic conditions during the warm intervals between glacier formation in North America. Such tropical forms as palms grew as far north as the Dakotas; and cycads, magnolias and figs lived in Alaska. As the glacial ice meleted, these tropical plants advanced northward with the retreating ice, only to be pushed back south by cold winds from newly formed glacial ice.

The forests were composed largely of representatives of such familiar types as oaks and beeches, along with species that have since become extinct. Nature was forming not just valleys and mountains. She was reshaping and remolding the living things of the earth for life in an ever-changing world.

Geologists' estimates indicate the ice began its final shrinkage at least 35,000 years ago. In scraping out the valleys, the glaciers had carried along and shoved before them huge volumes of earth. As the ice melted, the water flowing away from the melting margins carried with it much sand, silt and gravel.

The Mississippi River bluffs were created from the fine silt which washed off the melting glaciers. Climatic conditions during this period were favorable for the creation of winds which swept with great magnitude and velocity across the changing and restless earth. These winds picked up the fine sediments from the melting glacier out-washings and deposited them in certain areas of the lower Mississippi Valley.

Four great bluff areas were built from this soil borne by these great winds sweeping across the valley. In honor of the Indians of the Chickasaw Nation, who loved and fought for their sacred land, these bluffs are appropriately called the Chickasaw Bluffs.

Many historians claim that it was on the Fourth Chickasaw Bluff, the present site of the City of Memphis, that Hernando De Soto discovered the Mississippi River in May, 1541.

Millions of years in the making, the Mississippi Flows through its valley, constantly changing it, forever reshaping it, so that at no moment is the valley the same as it was in the moment preceding it. It is estimated that each year the river carries to its mouth enough silt to cover one ince in thickness a surface of 3,240 square miles. The river-borne soil under New Orleans is about 700 feet thick.

Modern man appeared on the earth during recent geologic time. If the entire history of the Earth were represented by a 24-hour period, the span of humankind could be plotted in the last few seconds.

Evidences of man's ancient history in North America keep coming to light, but present evidence points to early men being present in North America during the latter portion of the Pleistocene period, or about 20,000 years ago.

In my mind's eye, I once again review the history of the valley's creation, retracing in a few moments the millions of years of change required for its making.

From my spot on the Third Chickasaw Bluff I look out over the valley and watch the Western sky glow with blazing yellows and reds as the sun's slanting rays push through an atmosphere burdened with the dust and smoke of busy Earth. The spot where I am standing is rolling away from the mellowing sun into the dusk and enchantment of another night.

The mourning dove has the largest range of any game bird in the United States. It is the only such bird that reproduces in all 48 states.

SOUTHWEST RODEO

(Continued from Page 17)

from the race, but on December 26, 1910, the big event, sponsored by the Elks Club, was held with all the pomp and ceremony accorded a major sporting event. Except for a few brief skirmishes in jockeying for position, the winner was evident early in the race. In view of past conquests in other fields and to no one's surprise, Mrs. Richard streaked across the finish line in a cloud of dust with duster flying in the breeze . . . well in advance of her competitor who she remembers only as "some man".

Another trophy indicates first place in a poultry show for white orpingtons, in New Orleans, but having no date inscribed, the exact time is uncertain but "must have been about 1908". The novel feature of this contest was the defeat of "a Mr. Kelestrass of Scotts Plains, New Jersey" who developed the white orpington strain of chickens and who initiated the show to popularize the new breed. Mrs. Richard has many a nostalgic memory of her coop of chickens, particularly the pullet which won the show, and it is with much pride that she shows their photographs to visitors. Only the imaginative can appreciate the hours-long conversations of Mrs. Richard and her prize chicken which had house privileges and would "sit on the table and talk to me for the longest."

Visitors are served "real" coffee that "you never tasted any like" out of a beautiful silver service. It is only after the pot is lifted from the center of the tray that one notices an inscription which reads: "Presented to Brig. Gen. Beatrice Richard by Southwest Louisiana Fishing Club for outstanding sportsmanship 1956." She reads the inscription to those who "left my glasses home", noting in the process that she has never required optical assistance. The generalship is the result of an honorary appointment to his staff by Governor Earl Long during his first tenure of office.

The 1958 Southwest Louisiana Fishing Rodeo is now only a statistic, but come next July, around the fourth, those who are in search of inspiration could take a run out into the Gulf off the coast of Cameron, Louisiana. Somewhere out there . . . perhaps forty miles . . . he will find a little old lady, wearing a faded green straw hat to protect her from the broiling sun, patiently trolling from the stern of a boat or screaming "Strike!" to a weary boat operator who once again slows his engines to allow her to do battle with the hapless fish which took the lure. This will be Mrs. C. M. Richard busily and matter-of-factly engaged in that which she loves to do most . . . enjoying living in a world which offers no unaccepted challenge.

SAILFISH: 1st.—M. J. Heimingdinger, 25 lbs.; 2nd—Geo. T. Locke, 24 lbs.; 3rd.—Mary McNess, 23 lbs.

TARPON: 1st.—Dr. V. L. Wharton, 135 lbs. 8 oz.; 2nd—Billy Conover, Jr, 91 lbs.; 3rd—Buster Rogers, 59 lbs.

COBIA: 1st.—H. A. Reid III, 44 lbs. 8 oz.; 2nd.—Clyde Stewart, 44 lbs. 8 oz.; 3rd.—C. F. Fischer, 42 lbs. 8 oz.

JACKFISH: 1st.—Stoner Moss, 26 lbs. 8 oz.; 2nd.—Curley Hirsch, 25 lbs.; 3rd.—T. J. Jackson, 25 lbs.

BARRACUDA: 1st.—Frank Heard, 36 lbs. 8 oz.; 2nd.—Robert Sparks, 16 lbs.; 3rd.—Joe Barham, 15 lbs. 8 oz.

KING MACKEREL: 1st.—Ines Silar, 31 lbs.; 2nd.—Earl Hargroder, 25 lbs. 8 oz.; 3rd.—Jim Bass, 25 lbs.

BONITO: 1st.—J. W. Maddox, 8 lbs. 4 oz.; 2nd.—Mike Miller, 8 lbs.; 3rd.—Mitchell Dubhon, 8 lbs.

SPANISH MACKEREL: 1st.—Jack Short, 4 lbs. 13½ oz.; 2nd.—Ralph Gravelle, 4 lbs. 6½ oz.; 3rd.—Phillip Hawkins, 4 lbs. 3 oz.

DOLPHIN: 1st.—Bob Hinwood, 6 lbs.; 2nd.—E. J. Balzoni, 5 lbs.; 3rd.—Marie Murphy, 5 lbs.

BLUEFISH: 1st.—Billy Castle, 3 lbs. 10½ oz.; 2nd.—Mrs. C. M. Richard, 3 lbs. 6½ oz.; 3rd.—Anita McMillen, 2 lbs. 14 oz.

OUTSTANDING ANGLER: Dr. V. L. Wharton.

JUNIOR DIVISION

TARPON: none

SAILFISH: none

COBIA: 1st.—J. W. Crookshank, Jr., 28 lbs. 8 oz.; 2nd.—Randy Reid, 26 lbs. 8 oz.; 3rd.—Mike Vincent, 5 lbs.

JACKFISH: 1st.—Walter Moss, Jr., 20 lbs. 4 oz.; 2nd.—Chas. Bono, 20 lbs.; 3rd.—Walter Moss, Jr. 18 lbs.

KING MACKEREL: 1st.—David Heard, 14 lbs. 8 oz.; 2nd.—Ken Castle, 9 lbs. 12 oz.; 3rd.—Mike Miller, 9 lbs.

BONITO: 1st.—Mike Miller, 8 lbs.; 2nd.—David Heard, 7 lbs.; 3rd.—J. W. Crookshank, Jr., 6 lbs. 8 oz.

SPANISH MACKEREL: 1st.—Dickey Tipton, 3 lbs. 2½ oz.; 2nd.—Mike Miller, 3 lbs. 1 oz.; 3rd.—Ken Castle, 2 lbs. 1 oz.

DOLPHIN: 1st.—Ken Castle, 2 lbs. 9½ oz.; 2nd.—Hugh Raetzsch, 2 lbs. 7 oz.; 3rd.—Steve Jackson, 2 lbs. 2½ oz.

BLUEFISH: 1st.—Jimme Beresford, 2 lbs. 10 oz.; 2nd—none; 3rd.—none.

INSIDE—MAIN EVENT

SPECKLED TROUT: 1st.—Larry Fontenot, 5 lbs. 8 oz.; 2nd.—Ernest Guidrey, 4 lbs. 12 oz.

REDFISH: 1st.—Donald Peck, 4 lbs. 2 oz.; 2nd.—Hook Robicheaux, 3 lbs. 14 oz.

DRUM: 1st.—C. P. Cosgrove, 29 lbs.; 2nd.—Hook Cosgrove, 2 lbs. 14½ oz.

GAFFTOP: 1st.—Mike Lanza, 5½ lbs.; 2nd.—Bob Hinwood, 4 lbs. 11 oz.

FLOUNDER: 1st.—Stan Kent, 2 lbs. 9½ oz.; 2nd.—Bob Barnabus, 2 lbs. 5½ oz.

SHEEPSHEAD: 1st.—Hook Robicheaux, 14½ oz.; 2nd—Hook Robicheaux, 14 oz.

JUNIOR INSIDE

SPECKLED TROUT: 1st.—Mike Vincent, 3 lbs. 10 oz.; 2nd.—Mike Vincent, 3 lbs. 1½ oz.

REDFISH: 1st.—Mike Vincent, 3 lbs. 6 oz.

DRUM: 1st.—Mike Vincent, 1 lbs. 13 oz.

GAFFTOP: 1st.—Steve Jackson, 3 lbs. 2 oz.; 2nd.—Mike Vincent, 2 lbs. 12 oz.

LADIES OUTSIDE

SAILFISH: 1st.—Mary McNess, 23 lbs.

COBIA: 1st.—Marie Murphy, 29 lbs.; 2nd.—Mrs. E. O. Scallon, 20 lbs. 4 oz.; 3rd.—Mrs. A W Nolan, 18 lbs. 8 oz

JACKFISH: 1st.—Mary McNess, 23 lbs. 8 oz.; 2nd.—Mrs. Ruth McCormick, 23 lbs. 8 oz.; 3rd.—Mrs. Ruth McCormick, 22 lbs.

KING MACKEREL: 1st.—Ines Silar, 31 lbs.; 2nd.—Charlene Carnahan, 15 lbs. 4 oz.; 3rd.—Mrs. Glen Watson, 11 lbs. 8 oz.

BONITO: 1st.—Sally Lewis, 7 lbs.; 2nd.—Mrs. C. M. Richard, 6 lbs. 12 oz.; 3rd.—Charlene Carnahan, 6 lbs.

SPANISH MACKEREL: 1st.—Mrs. Elaytha LeBleu, 3 lbs. 5 oz.; 2nd.—Mary McNess, 3 lbs. ½ oz.; 3rd.—Wanda Carnahan, 2 lbs. 10 oz.

DOLPHIN: 1st.—Marie Murphy, 5 lbs.; 2nd.—Mrs. E. J. Goodeaux, 3 lbs 10 oz.; 3rd.—Mrs. Robert Sparks, 3 lbs. 7 oz.

BLUEFISH: 1st.—Mrs. C. M. Richard, 3 lbs. 6½ oz.; 2nd.—Anita McMillen, 2 lbs. 14 oz.; 3rd.—Wanda Carnahan, 2 lbs. 10 oz.

WILDLIFE ODDITY

Wildlife officers recently observed one of nature's oddities—a mallard duck nesting high in a tree. The mama mallard occupied an old magpie nest and six ducklings resulted from a clutch of seven eggs, the little ones apparently successfully surviving what to them was a high tumble from the nest.

Agent Joseph Foucha, Captain L. R. Cabirac, Anthony Gaeto and Captain Joe Dorn peer over the rail of Wildlife boat after making several arrests during the day.

WILDLIFE AGENTS MAKE

(Continued from Page 19)

Pierre Seafood company was standing by on the beach to receive the fish, the agents said. The truck is the property of St. Pierre and the net is owned by Lafont, Sr., they said.

The arrests followed complaints by residents and merchants of the island who had asked the commission to close the shore waters to seining from April 1 to August 31, according to Captain Book. "The merchants and residents asked for the closed season in 1955 and were granted it by executive order of the commission, because Grand Isle being a tourist attraction for bathers and surf sports fishermen was in danger of losing business because of the stench caused by trash fish left rotting on the beaches by the seiners," Book said.

"Bathers have been injured by stepping on the fins of catfish left on the beaches, the residents are annoyed by the flies attracted by the discarded fish and the seining damages the surf fishing for sports fishermen," Book said.

The four men will be charged in the Jefferson Parish district court with violating the seining restrictions and the seine has been impounded pending action of the court. "We know who the men are in the other three seining parties operating on the island and would have caught them at the same time had they not been tipped off on the raid," Book said. The seized catch of speckled trout were turned over to the Waldo Burton children's home in New Orleans. The Grand Isle arrest was one of a total of four made for seining in restricted waters since January 1.

In the meantime, while agents were busy upholding the new shrimp law the Enforcement division's war on fish shockers continued with thirteen arrests having been made since January, Chief Easterly said, "Nobody likes a fish shocker and the legitimate commercial fishermen hate them most of all. No matter what it takes we are going to stamp out this practice in Louisiana waters."

NAMED TO COMMITTEE

Lyle St. Amant and Percy Viosca, Jr., marine biologists of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries commission, have been named members of an Estuarine research committee by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries commission to investigate the number and magnitude of man-made changes in wildlife habitat by industry and encroaching civilization in five southern states.

According to W. Dudley Gunn, executive secretary of the commission, the areas to be investigated provide an essential habitat for important game, sport fish, commercial fish and shellfish resources.

COMMISSION SETS HUNTING SEASON

HUNTING season dates, and bag and possession limits for game animals and birds in Louisiana for the 1958-59 season have been set by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission according to F. Lamar Clement, director. The seasons which were set at the regular July monthly meeting of the commission. Those do not include those for deer for the various parishes as these will be announced at a later date.

Possession limits apply to the various species as designated after the first day of hunting each species. Certain areas may be closed to hunting and seasons cancelled at the discretion of the commission in event of threat to any area by fire hazards due to drouth or in the event of flood or any other emergency which might arise in a specific area, Clement said.

The hunting seasons and bag and possession limits for the following species of game animals and birds are as follows:

QUAIL: November 27—February 15, inclusive. Daily bag limit, 10 quail per day; Possession limit 20.

RABBIT: October 1—February 15, eight rabbits per day; Possession limit 16.

SQUIRREL: October 1—January 10, bag limit eight squirrels per day; Possession limit 16.

BEAR: Closed season.

WILD TURKEY: To be set in January 1959.

DOVE: September 1-15; November 27—January 15, all dates inclusive. Bag limit 10 doves per day; Possession limit 20 after first day.

RAILS AND GALLINULES: October 4—December 12, inclusive. Bag limit 15; Possession limit 30, except sora which is 25 bag and possession.

WOODCOCK: December 12—January 20, inclusive. Bag limit 4 Woodcocks per day; Possession limit 8.

Here is Mrs. Ed "Fuzzy" Corey of Alexandria and 68 large bluegill bream that she and her husband caught in Spring Bayou, near Marksville. The bream weighed from eight to 20 ounces.

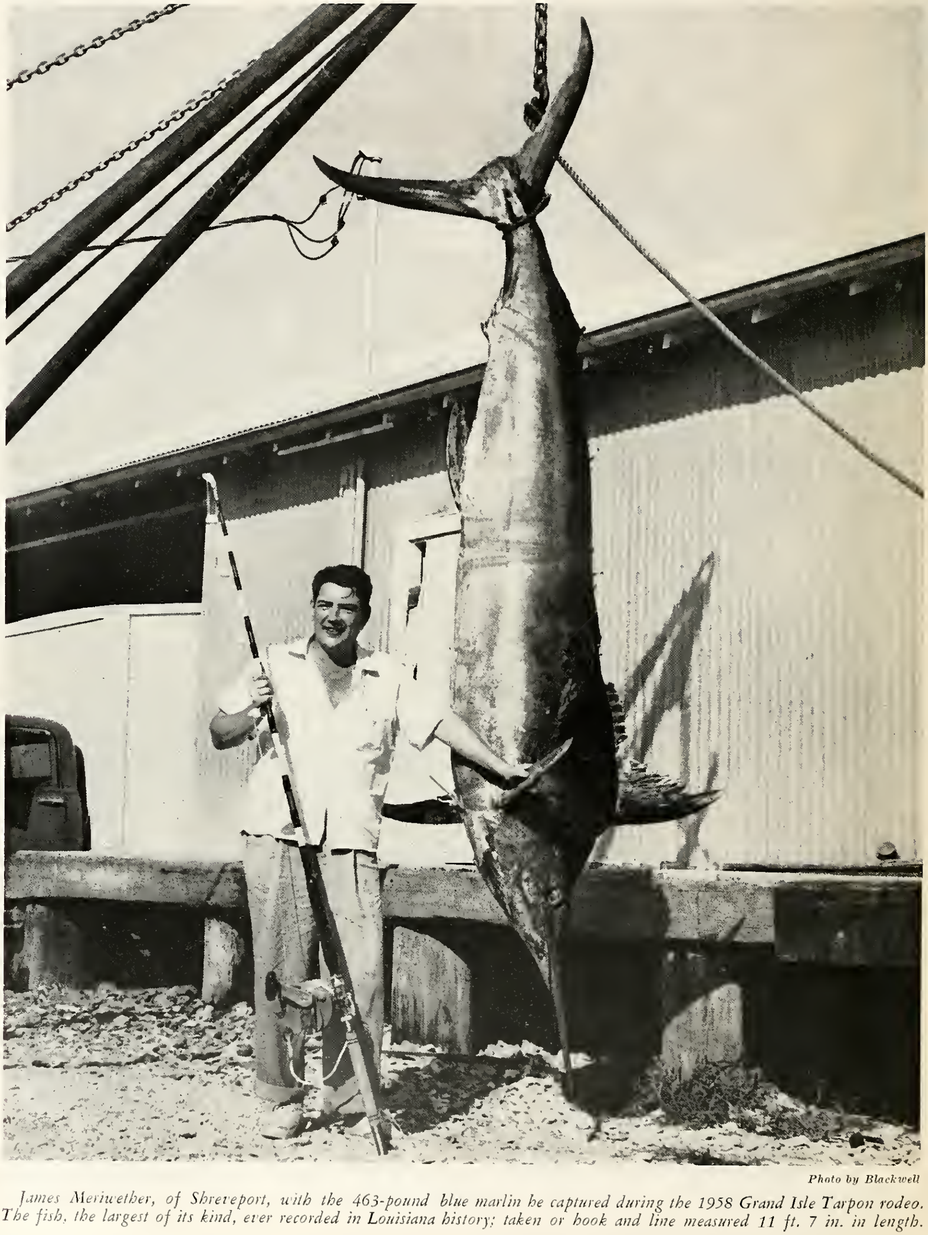

Photo by Blackwell

James Meriwether, of Shreveport, with the 463-pound blue marlin he captured during the 1958 Grand Isle Tarpon rodeo. The fish, the largest of its kind, ever recorded in Louisiana history; taken or hook and line measured 11 ft. 7 in. in length.